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Docket: NEB-238-PUS

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE

APPLICANT: New England Biolabs, Inc., et al.

U.S. APPLICATION NO.: not yet assigned

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EQ 611798344 US

FILED: herewith

FOR: Compositions and Methods for Generating Short Double-Stranded  
RNA Using Mutated RNase III

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: US/EO/DO  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Applicants request that the specification be amended to include priority data for the present U.S. national phase application as presented in the enclosed Declaration and Power of Attorney. Changes to the specification appear on page 2 of this paper. The Conclusion section appears on page 3.